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MOLASSES PRODUCTION AND TRADE CONTINUES AT HIGH LEVEL 1/

Production of industrial molasses in the 1961-62 crop year is estimated at 2,877 million gallons. This is somewhat below the record high 1960-61 production of 3,036 million gallons but above the 5-year 1955-59 average of 2,441 million gallons.

World imports of molasses declined to 542 million gallons in the calendar year 1961 from the 716 million gallons of 1960, mostly because of a decline in U.S. imports.

Industrial molasses is used in many ways, such as the production of industrial alcohol, distilling, feed for livestock and the manufacture of yeast. The last two uses have important potentials for the improvement of diets in some countries. As a raw material for alcohol production, however, molasses has many competitors.

Much of the world's industrial molasses is produced under circumstances which have prevented its effective use, so that much has been and is being wasted. Some molasses is used for stabilizing the surface of dirt roads or the banks of irrigation ditches. It is burned for fuel in some Eastern Hemisphere countries but much is simply dumped into the nearest river. These low-value

1/ Industrial molasses as used in this report includes blackstrap or final molasses from raw sugar, refiners molasses, and high-test molasses, but excludes edible molasses and table sirups.

This circular contains more detailed discussion than the summary of similar title published in the monthly supplemental issue of Foreign Crops and Markets of September 27, 1962. The production data herein differ in a few instances from those in the summary.

uses and waste have come about because of a lack of proper pumping, storage and transportation facilities, and because of limited local markets for molasses products. The quantity of molasses produced in any particular country, therefore, is not necessarily the quantity available to potential buyers, particularly for export.

A small amount of high test molasses is produced in Cuba and Puerto Rico. This is really not a molasses but rather an inverted sugar sirup made from concentrated cane juice taken directly from the evaporators. It is generally too valuable for use in livestock feeds because it contains about 78 percent total sugars as compared with 48 percent in blackstrap molasses. For this reason its use is largely restricted to distilling.

As indicated in the accompanying table by parentheses, molasses production has been estimated in many countries where reliable local estimates were not specifically reported. Such estimates were developed largely on the basis of known ratios between molasses production and sugar output in other countries having similar processing methods and natural factors. However, it is recognized that these ratios vary from country to country and even from year to year in the same country. Production of molasses by region and in most countries, followed the major changes in sugar production rather closely.

Official government figures on molasses production are available for 31 countries, molasses exports for 23 countries and molasses imports for 19 countries, as shown in the accompanying tables. World imports of molasses, as indicated by the activity of these specified countries, declined 24 percent in 1961 to about 542 million gallons from the 1960 high of 717 million gallons. This is slightly higher than the annual average 505 million gallons in the 1955-1959 period.

The major importers of molasses and their 1961 imports in millions of gallons are: The United States (261), the United Kingdom (78), Japan (72), Canada (26), and Australia (22). In each of these countries except Australia imports of molasses exceeded total domestic production and, therefore, constituted more than half of the total molasses used within the country.

The leading exporters of industrial molasses are Cuba, Mexico, Republic of the Philippines, the Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Jamaica and France. In each of these countries more than three-fourths of the molasses produced has been exported in recent years, with the exception of France, where one-third was exported. Among all countries shown, however, aggregate exports have been only one-fifth of total production.

MOLASSES, INDUSTRIAL: World production, average 1950-51 through 1954-55 and 1955-56 through 1959-60, annual 1960-61 through 1961-62 1/

Continent and country	Average 1950-51 through 1954-55	Average 1955-56 through 1959-60	1960-61	1961-62 2/
	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons
North America:				
Canada 3/	7,501	8,655	9,650	(9,129)
Costa Rica	1,546	1,927	3,362	4,322
Cuba 4/	356,451	297,324	330,000	240,000
Dominican Republic	30,298	(25,338)	70,000	56,000
El Salvador	(3,460)	1,925	3,362	4,322
Guatemala	(2,147)	3,615	5,587	6,200
Haiti	2,990	(4,053)	4,500	4,100
Jamaica	**13,268**	**(15,520)**	**31,929**	**33,347**
Mexico	**63,297**	**88,888**	**111,861**	**104,892**
United States	**158,490**	**169,703**	**193,230**	**214,796**
Hawaii	**48,937**	**53,083**	**50,817**	**56,652**
Puerto Rico	**61,560**	**56,660**	**62,444**	**56,840**
Total North America 6/	790,745	772,191	927,992	844,925
South America:				
Argentina	68,125	39,331	61,059	60,561
Brazil	(137,800)	(202,600)	(249,000)	(268,000)
British Guiana	12,351	(14,840)	20,996	18,795
Peru	26,942	40,864	2/48,296	2/46,827
Total South America 6/	272,018	337,435	426,351	443,783
Europe:				
Austria	7,825	11,638	13,186	9,365
Belgium-Luxembourg	17,570	17,502	22,947	19,273
Denmark	15,022	16,014	11,613	14,629
Finland	1,785	2,453	3,933	3,634
France	72,762	76,473	121,749	78,294
Germany, West	62,149	82,541	90,947	61,249
Ireland	(2,465)	4,638	7,232	7,422
Italy	43,200	66,517	56,866	(54,200)
Netherlands	21,072	21,635	32,966	26,223
Spain	18,323	24,627	36,078	42,833
Sweden	11,798	13,310	17,232	13,673
Switzerland	1,604	1,726	1,437	1,606
United Kingdom	37,056	45,105	61,187	50,433
Total West Europe	312,631	384,179	477,373	382,834
Hungary	(13,480)	(16,504)	(24,350)	(17,100)
Poland	(43,000)	(46,614)	67,650	(74,100)
Yugoslavia	(7,600)	10,462	(15,788)	(12,268)
Total East Europe 6/	145,480	157,380	212,788	198,768
Total Europe	458,111	541,559	690,161	581,602
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	(148,000)	(241,800)	(308,000)	(409,300)
Africa:				
Angola	2,200	2,420	(2,700)	(2,750)
Egypt 3/ 5/	(27,000)	27,665	28,096	(24,700)
Mauritius	18,277	21,274	13,672	21,540
South Africa, Republic of	(26,800)	(38,400)	(41,800)	(46,600)
Total Africa 6/	100,677	129,559	137,268	146,590
Asia:				
China, Taiwan	27,465	32,524	35,859	33,814
India	96,680	149,182	(221,400)	(207,000)
Indonesia	23,580	(36,292)	35,588	33,715
Philippines	54,006	(57,540)	73,181	74,988
Turkey	8,644	(16,359)	31,996	21,166
Total Asia 6/	226,195	357,397	494,024	396,906
Oceania:				
Australia	43,964	51,654	44,413	(45,000)
Fiji	(6,720)	(9,120)	(7,800)	(8,600)
Total Oceania	50,684	60,774	52,213	53,600
Total world	2,046,430	2,440,715	3,036,009	2,876,706

1/ In each country the year of production is the same as that for centrifugal sugar production. Production has been estimated by groups of countries known to produce centrifugal sugar, but for which insufficient data are available to show production for each country. Figures in parentheses are Foreign Agricultural Service estimates. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Calendar year; first year mentioned in heading. 4/ Includes hi-test molasses. 5/ May include edible molasses. 6/ Includes estimates for non-reporting countries.

MOLASSES, INDUSTRIAL: Exports of specified countries
averages 1950-54, 1955-59, annual 1960 and 1961

Continent and country	Average 1950-54	Average 1955-59	1960	1961 1/
	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons
North America:				
Barbados	3,764	5,781	4,761	6,618
Canada	2,798	2,059	1,325	325
Cuba	248,732	192,719	2/ 240,193	(175,000)
Dominican Republic	26,643	34,326	2/ 62,281	2/ 53,626
Haiti 3/	3,055	3,948	2/ 2,942	2/ 14,817
Jamaica	7,759	15,338	25,630	82,858
Mexico	29,147	43,755	82,003	59.347
Trinidad and Tobago	2,933	7,609	9,955	18,658
United States	8,854	18,534	18,194	10,444
Total North America	333,685	324,069	447,284	421,593
South America:				
British Guiana	9,274	10,722	18,754	17,643
Ecuador	2/ 962	3,382	6,755	2/ 1,232
Peru	2,564	3,693	5,072	10,960
Total South America	12,800	17,797	30,581	29,835
Europe:				
Belgium and Luxembourg	1,326	426	4/	139
Denmark	4,674	3,378	1,003	1,434
France	9,920	19,312	12,175	28,025
Germany, West	2,688	721	4/	4/
Italy	380	3,343	3,376	2,744
Netherlands	5,323	3,619	5,468	7,716
Spain	125	0	0	0
Sweden	1	151	0	0
United Kingdom 5/	1,108	3,251	4,203	1,700
Total West Europe	25,545	34,201	26,225	41,758
Africa:				
Angola	239	156	0	0
Egypt	7,528	12,106	14,191	(20,300)
Mauritius	7,566	11,176	8,463	5,622
South Africa, Republic of	512	2,184	1,991	(2,100)
Total Africa	15,845	25,622	24,645	(28,000)
Asia:				
Hong Kong	468	740	1,078	(1,400)
India 5/	3,335	4,532	2,554	9,851
Indonesia	13,015	24,086	28,343	26,731
Malaya	21	0	0	0
Philippines	28,271	42,566	65,674	(72,400)
Syria	14	352	592	(650)
Thailand	0	1,939	11,458	17,019
Turkey	1,129	409	6,027	(7,950)
Total Asia	46,253	74,624	115,726	(136,000)
Oceania:				
Australia 6/	1,140	934	1,085	1,150
Fiji	7/ 6,655	7,122	10,375	27,938
Total Oceania	7,795	8,056	11,460	29,088
Total of above	441,923	484,369	655,921	8/ 686,300

1/ Preliminary. Figures in parentheses are estimated by the Foreign Agricultural Service. 2/ To United States only. 3/ Fiscal year. 4/ Less than 500 gallons. 5/ Includes invert sugar. 6/ Crop year beginning July 1 of year indicated. 7/ 3 year average 1952-54. 8/ Includes estimates for non-reporting countries.

MOLASSES, INDUSTRIAL: Imports of specified countries average 1950-54 and 1955-59, annual 1960 and 1961

Continent and country	Average 1950-54	Average 1955-59	1960	1961 1/
	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons	1,000 gallons
North America:				
Canada 2/	5,821	15,879	21,925	26,210
United States	306,142	314,733	449,646	260,977
Total North America	311,963	330,612	471,571	287,187
Europe:				
Austria	174	929	13	5
Belgium and Luxembourg	3,120	6,707	14,972	10,709
Denmark	6	957	2,313	80
Finland	0	1,613	(2,500)	2,972
France	438	94	543	158
Germany, West	754	4,192	9,449	12,597
Greece	1,127	3,854	2,490	2,311
Ireland	3/ 1,936	1,013	537	1,096
Italy	933	1,304	1,494	1,121
Netherlands	3,887	10,099	19,013	24,419
Norway	1,256	1,525	2,394	4,973
Sweden	1,281	2,242	2,829	2,160
United Kingdom	85,620	76,631	81,284	78,148
Total West Europe	100,532	111,160	139,800	140,749
South Africa, Republic of	203	351	2	0
Asia:				
Ceylon	0	57	158	103
Hong Kong	1,479	1,174	2,456	501
Japan	4/ 16,252	34,472	64,030	(72,000)
Korea, South	5/ 6,335	11,147	19,169	19,824
Malaya	192	1	1	1
Thailand	2,954	793	0	0
Total Asia	27,212	47,644	85,814	92,429
Australia 6/	7,893	14,838	19,328	(21,500)
Total of above	447,803	504,605	7/ 716,500	7/ 541,900

1/ Preliminary. Figures in parentheses are estimated by the Foreign Agricultural Service. 2/ Includes hi-test molasses. 3/ Includes invert molasses. 4/ 4 year average. 5/ 3 year average. 6/ Crop year. 7/ Includes estimates for non-reporting countries.

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